03050208-030

(Horseshoe Creek)

General Description

Watershed 03050208-030 is located in Colleton County and consists primarily of *Horseshoe Creek* and its tributaries. The watershed occupies 82,180 acres of the Lower Coastal Plain and Coastal Plain regions of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Wahee-Bladen-Ogeechee-Argent-Santee series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.16, and the slope of the terrain averages 1%, with a range of 0-2%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 53.5% forested land, 28.4% forested wetland, 12.3% agricultural land, 2.4% barren land, 1.9% nonforested wetland, 1.1% urban land, and 0.4% water.

Fuller Swamp Creek and Chessey Creek (Logging Savanna, Oats Hole, Warrens Savanna) join to form Horseshoe Lead Creek, which in turn merges with Baptist Church Branch to form Horseshoe Creek near the Town of Cottageville. Shereau Branch and Sandy Dam Branch join to form another Chessey Creek (Pringle Creek), which flows into Horseshoe Creek at the base of the watershed. There are a total of 91.0 stream miles and 88.4 estuarine acres in this watershed, all classified FW.

Surface Water Quality

| Station # | <u>Type</u> | <u>Class</u> | Description |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| CSTL-581 | BIO | FW | FULLER SWAMP CREEK AT US 17A |
| CSTL-580 | BIO | FW | CHESSEY CREEK AT S-15-45 |
| CSTL-071 | W | FW | HORSESHOE CREEK AT SC 64 |

Fuller Swamp Creek (CSTL-581) – Aquatic life uses are not supported based on macroinvertebrate community data.

Chessey Creek (CSTL-580) – Aquatic life uses are not supported based on macroinvertebrate community data.

Horseshoe Creek (CSTL-071) – Aquatic life uses are fully supported. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH and dissolved oxygen concentrations. Although dissolved oxygen and pH excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and are considered natural, not standards violations. Recreational uses are fully supported.

A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes Chessey Creek and Horseshoe Creek within this watershed (see advisory p.58).

Nonpoint Source Management Program

Land Disposal Activities
Landfill Facilities

LANDFILL NAME PERMIT #
FACILITY TYPE STATUS

Mining Activities

MINING COMPANY PERMIT #
MINE NAME MINERAL

COLLETON COUNTY 1050-29 GRIFFITH BORROW PIT SAND/CLAY

SMITHS BACKHOE SERVICES, INC. 1060-29 SMITH PIT SAND/CLAY

Growth Potential

There is a moderate potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Cottageville and a portion of the City of Walterboro. Existing rail lines, the new Aldrin Business and Technology Park outside of Walterboro, and the city's proximity to I-95 make industrial growth a possibility in this portion of the watershed. Cottageville is projected to continue experiencing residential and commercial growth, spilling over from the City of Charleston. However, the current and proposed growth lies in areas with inadequate sewer service. Less than 25% of the total land area is suitable for septic system installations; and another 25-50% or less is classified as marginally suitable.